



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shackelford et al.
Appl. No.: 10/699,621
Filed: October 31, 2003
Docket No.: 1998
Conf. No. 3036
Title: **CONTAINER TRANSPORT APPARATUS FOR USE IN
MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS AND METHOD THEREOF**

Art Unit: 3652
Examiner:

Action: **TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE**
Date: April 29, 2004

TO: Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The squeeze tube filling apparatuses identified on the attached form PTO/SB/08B have come to the attention of the undersigned in connection with the subject application. Specifically, Applicants have identified three (3) squeeze tube filling apparatuses manufactured and sold by the assignee of this application, ProSys Innovative Packaging Equipment, which is a division of Reagent Chemical & Research, Inc., having offices at 422 East 17th Street, Webb City Missouri 64870 ("ProSys"), and it is respectfully requested that these apparatuses be made of record in this proceeding. Prosys identifies these apparatuses as its model numbers: LVF RT 40, LVF RT 70, and LVF RT 140. Applicants have attached copies of advertisement brochures as well as recently printed web pages that relate to these apparatus were obtained from the Prosys website located at www.prosysfill.com and have been attached hereto for the Examiner's review.

In addition, Applicants have provided photographs of one of the apparatuses for the Examiner's consideration. As may be appreciated from the photographs, the transfer apparatus transports a selected container from the load ramp to a respective tube holder. The transfer apparatus includes a vacuum head supported by a load arm. The vacuum head is connected to a vacuum source via a vacuum hose.

The sequence of steps to transport one tube from the load ramp to its tube holder begins with the release of the tube by the load gate. Once the vacuum head receives the released tube, the load arm moves in a counterclockwise direction to place the tube into the intended tube holder. The suction generated by the vacuum source allows the vacuum head to hold on to the tube until it is transported to its tube holder. Once the tube is placed in its tube holder, the load seat moves downwardly to assist its placement therein. The load seat then moves upwardly to return to its initial position. During its downward and upward movement, the load seat does not rotate.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the background discussion in the application. Portions of the background discussion generally discuss manufacturing processes related to making tube products.

The identification of these apparatuses is for the purpose of meeting Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and is not intended to be an admission that any of them constitute prior art as to the invention disclosed and claimed in the subject application. Please initial the attached form PTO/SB/08B where indicated and return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the listed items have been considered and made of record.

The Examiner is courteously solicited to enter an expeditious allowance of this application. If any questions remain to be addressed, it is respectfully requested that



The undersigned attorney for the Applicants be contacted at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

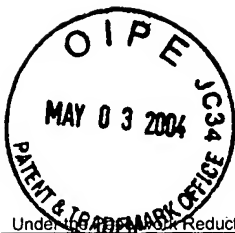
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that the foregoing **TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE (3 pages)** including **FORM PTO/SB/08 (1 page)** and **REFERENCES** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 29th day of April, 2004.

Marcie F. King



PTO/SB/08B (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/699,621
		Filing Date	10/31/2003
		First Named Inventor	Shackelford, et al.
		Art Unit	3652
Examiner Name			
Sheet 1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number	1998

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Squeeze Tube Filling Equipment, Item Number LVF RT 40, distributed by Prosys Innovative Packaging Equipment, 422 East 17th Street, Webb City, Missouri 64870.	
		Squeeze Tube Filling Equipment, Item Number LVF RT 70, distributed by Prosys Innovative Packaging Equipment, 422 East 17th Street, Webb City, Missouri 64870.	
		Automatic Squeeze Tube Filling Equipment, Item Number LVF RT 140, distributed by Prosys Innovative Packaging Equipment, 422 East 17th Street, Webb City, Missouri 64870.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.